



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS, MAINE NATIONAL GUARD
33 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333-0033

NGME-HRO

14 November 2014

MEMORANDUM FOR: MeANG Fulltime Commanders and Directors
MENG Fulltime Directors

SUBJECT: Eligibility for FEHB – Temporary Technicians

1. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) issued a final rule modifying coverage of the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program. The modification is effective 17 November 2014 and makes FEHB coverage available to certain temporary employees.
2. Employees on temporary appointments who are expected to work 130 hours per month or more for at least 90 days will be eligible to enroll in an FEHB plan. These newly eligible employees will receive the same government contribution as full-time permanent employees.
3. Technicians who are eligible to enroll in FEHB programs are not eligible to participate in TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS). Upon eligibility of FEHB coverage, Technicians who participate in TRS must cancel their TRS enrollment no later than January 2015. Technicians who delay incur significant risk as TRICARE could potentially cancel their enrollment to their date of appointment causing a gap in coverage.
4. Temporary employees now eligible for FEHB plans should be encouraged to investigate the plans available during open season on OPM's website (<http://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/open-season/>) and sign up through the Army Benefits Center-Civilian (ABC-C) website, (www.abc.army.mil). Unfortunately, systems are not yet capable of processing enrollments. Eligible temporary technicians will be notified when systems become available.
5. HRO Points of contact are: Mrs. Esther Varney at 430-6020 or LTC Lydia Jordan at 430-6016.

/s/

RICHARD J. DAWSON, Lt Col, MeANG
Human Resources Officer